world to demonstrate capabilities for geostationery satellite launch. Front ranking scientific investigations are being carried out in the fields of astronomy, atmospheric sciences and long term climatic research using satellites, balloons, sounding rockets and ground instruments. In a nutshell, it has been recognised world-wide that Indian Space Programme's Contributions to several areas of national development *via-a-vis* its modest budget allocations are significant.

(d) No, Sir.

Assistance from Russia for GSLV

4560. SHRI K.M. KHAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are contemplating to re-launch the Geo-synchronous Satellite Launching Vehicle in the orbit shortly;

(b) if so, by when the re-launching preparation would be completed;

(c) how much expenditure is likely to be re-incurred for the purpose;

(d) whether Government are not taking any assistance in this connection from Russia; and

(e) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SPACE (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE) : (a) and (b) Geosynchronous Satellite Launch Vehicle-D1 (GSLV-D1) has been successfully launched on 18th April, 2001 placing GSAT-1 in Geosynchronous transfer orbit.

(c) Provision for launch abort is part of the launch countdown. All the vehicle systems were healthy and reusable. The disassembled engine also can be reused after refurbishment. The re-launch attempt called for marginal additional network hiring charges, propellants and gases, which are provided for. It is important to note that the experience, gained through the safe abort and fast recovery, is invaluable. The additional expenditure involved would not be significant.

(d) and (e) It was not necessary to take any external assistance in this context since sufficient expertise is available within the country; which was demonstrated by the successful launch of GSLV-D1 on 18th April, 2001.

MPLADS fund for Gujarat victims

4561. SHRI V.V. RAGHAVAN:
SHRI NAGENDRA NATH OJHA:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether some Members of Parliament have offered to contribute from their MPLADS fund for the relief and rehabilitation of Gujarat earthquake victims;

(b) if so, the details of the MPs who have agreed to contribute giving the amount contributed by each and names of those who have not given their consent so far;

(c) whether Government have taken any decision as to how this contribution is to be utilised in the rehabilitation work; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI ARUN SHOURIE) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A statement showing the name of the MPs of Rajya Sabha and Lok Sabha who have given consent for contribution of MPLADS fund, and the amount contributed is placed at Annexure- [*See* Appendix 192, Annexure No. 37]

(c) and (d) The Rajya Sabha and Lok Sabha MPLADS Committees are to decide the nature of work and the implementing agency to whom the work is to be entrusted.